22nd July 1953]

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" Is there any time limit fixed, after the date of the occurrence of the offence, for the report of the occurrence of the offence to the District Forest Officer concerned who is to decide the course in the matter? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" No, Sir, he takes action immediately."

SRI T. LAKSHMINARAYANA REDDI :—" Are the Government aware that one forest guard and one watcher cannot protect the forest properly and will the Government increase the staff by one more watcher for every beat? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" It all depends upon the intensity of the forest areas."

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that these forest crimes have increased after the abolition of the forest panchayats? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" Forest offences are detected more efficiently. That is why it looks as though there are more offences."

SRI M. S. MOGRAL :—" May I know how many forest officers have been suspended for corruption during the last three years? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" The hon. Member can give notice of a separate question."

House rent and other allowances to Prohibition guards.

* 865 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state why Government are not giving housing allowance, washing allowance and shaving allowance to the Prohibition guards in Malabar?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" The Prohibition guards throughout the State are not paid any washing or shaving allowance but are given House Rent Allowance at the rates sanctioned in the G.O. Ms. No. 379, Finance, dated 3rd April 1951."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether the Government have given washing allowance and shaving allowance to these people any time before and if so will the Minister say why it is stopped? Will the Government also consider the question of reviving it? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" Will the hon. Member enlighten me as to the date of the order giving the allowance? "

SRI C. KANDASWAMI :—" If the Government are not giving shaving allowance, will they tolerate it if the Prohibition staff grow beard? "

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" The Minister has told the House that the Government are not giving any washing or shaving allowance to the Prohibition guards. Is it because they make their own allowances in some way or other? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" I am not of that view.".

9-30 a.m. MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member, Sri Yellamanda Reddi, has given notice of a short notice question. There was no time to roneo it and circulate it to hon. Members. I shall read the question and if the Hon. Minister is prepared to answer, he may answer. I shall allow five minutes for this question. The question is—

' Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(1) whether any representations have been made to the Government by the Members of this House with the request that all prosecutions launched in connexion with the Andhra State agitation in December last be withdrawn; and

(2) if so, the action taken thereon.' "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I am not sure whether any such representations were made. But the question itself may be treated by me as a representation. It is not possible to condone very grave crimes said to have been committed by all sorts of people, taking advantage of the confusion created by violent political agitation. This Government would be opening itself to a serious charge, if they did anything by way of creating a law and order difficulty for the new State at the very outset by an indiscriminate and all-comprehensive withdrawal of prosecutions for very grave crimes in which evidence is found to be available. Further, I would like to leave the advantage arising out of a general amnesty to the new Government and should not like to appropriate the credit to myself."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Sir, if the leaders of important political parties in Andhra who are now represented in this House jointly make a representation for the withdrawal of the cases connected with the Andhra State agitation, will the Government be pleased to consider that and order their release before 1st October so that they could also participate in that function? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I have partly answered the point raised, in the last part of my answer."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" If the leaders agree, can it be done? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the Government of Andhra is still only a potential entity. Some leaders may agree and some others may not agree."

22nd July 1953]

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Sir, does the Chief Minister remember that I was one of those who wrote to him about this a long time ago after the decision by the Prime Minister was announced that the Andhra State would be formed? I did really send a representation to the Hon. Chief Minister that those who are connected with the agitation should be let out and that is, Sir, with regard to the first portion. My question is, does he consider that the grave crimes about which he talks are just as grave or more grave than those offences for which prosecutions were launched, arrests were made and detentions were ordered and then proceedings withdrawn in the Chittoor area? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, any case, really not grave, will not be considered by me grave. I am referring to very grave cases like looting property, damaging railways and such things which had been committed. But this question should be really considered by the new Government and I am sure it will be considered by them very liberally. I do not think it would be proper for me to saddle the new Government with jail deliveries of robbers, decoits, etc."

SRI G. YELLAMANDA REDDI :—" Sir, are these cases graver than those of 1942 ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I did not release the 1942 prisoners."

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—" Sir, are the Government aware that all this agitation took place as a consequence of the failure of the Government to form the State earlier and save the life of Potti Sriramulu and will they realize that it is their duty to withdraw the cases which are still pending? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, crimes arising out of immediate passion can be considered altogether in a different way from crimes like removing of rice bags, looting of property and the like."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Sir, is the Hon. Chief Minister aware that the people who indulged in removing rice bags did not take them for themselves but distributed them to the people in Vijayawada. All these things arose out of a momentary passion in a particular movement. Is it not very necessary, in view of the fact that the Andhra State is to be established now, to see that normal atmosphere is restored and all these cases are not kept pending? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, we are getting into a mere argument. It is possible to explain away every burglary on the socialist principle that property is distributed to other people who needed it very much. We cannot really take up that position. Really, the point is whether this should be considered fully by the new Andhra Government or by this Government in advance."

[22nd July 1953

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Sir, does the Hon. Chief Minister consider the release of those people who were convicted or against whom cases were kept pending by the then Government and who were released by the new Congress Governments that were formed in 1946, a wrong thing? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I do not think that in 1942 cases of this kind arose."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, when a particular movement is withdrawn or when particular steps are taken by the Government to establish new conditions in the State, the general tradition is that the prisoners concerned are released. It has been done by the British Government and the Congress Government also. Will the Hon. Chief Minister take this into consideration and release the men before the 1st October so that we may start the new Andhra State in friendly conditions? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I do not really understand why hon. Members are so apprehensive about the new Andhra Government. In any case, let me point out that while the so-called tradition referred to by Sri Nagi Reddi has unfortunately been built up, I think it is time we stopped the feeling that such acts are generally condoned and that criminals can expect condonation as soon as something political takes place."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, since Mr. Viswanatham has mentioned about Chittoor, I am tempted to put this question. Is it not a fact that the participants in the Chittoor agitation are still behind the bars and is it not a fact that the Hon. Chief Minister has not shown any different kind of treatment—one to agitators in Chittoor district and another to the agitators in Andhra area? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, those who have really committed graver offences, like interfering with railway track, etc., are behind the bars, very probably. But those who have committed mere agitational offences have been released as far as my information goes."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, will the Hon. Chief Minister consider why he should not share the credit for a general amnesty with the new Government by the release of those who are not guilty of violent and grave crimes? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I am quite prepared to accept the proposition of Mr. Balakrishnan."

SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" అయ్యా, Chief Minister గారు 1942 వ సంవత్సరంలో కులశేఖరపట్టణం కేసు విషయంలో తాను defend చేస్తూ నేరం దేశభక్తితో చేశారని సమర్థిస్తూ rules చేయుటకు ప్రయత్నం చేశారు. ఇప్పుడు చేసిన నేరం ఏమున్నదండి? ఇప్పుడు ఈ పరిస్థితులు వచ్చాయి కనుక ఇందుకు rules చేయకూడదా అని అడుగుతున్నాను."

22nd July 1953]

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, Mr. Gopalakrishnaiah refers to what I did as a private person and says that I agitated for clemency for a particular prisoner who was under sentence of death. The case was quite different. Commutation of sentences of death to one of transportation for life is being granted every day even now. The question of withdrawing cases of grave offences is quite a different matter."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Sir, the Hon. Chief Minister is not willing to release the prisoners or withdraw the cases only to allow the future Andhra Government to have the credit. May I suggest to him that the would-be members of the Andhra Government would also be pleased if the Chief Minister shared the credit as he has shared the credit for the formation of the new State? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, after so much of discussion, I shall look into the matter."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Question-time is over. Answers to the remaining questions will be printed in the proceedings."

Famine relief measures in Chingleput district.

* 866 *Q.*—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has been received from the M.L.Cs. and M.L.As. of Chingleput district with regard to declaring this district as famine-affected district and for relief measures as that of other famine-affected areas;

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter; and

(*c*) whether the nature of the action taken has been communicated to any one of the representatives?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The Government considered that in view of the improved seasonal conditions in the district, no action was necessary.

" (*c*) A reply was sent on 29th January 1953 to this effect to Sri V. K. Ramaswami Mudaliar, M.L.A., who was one of the signatories to the representation."

The Sathanur Anicut.

* 867 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the stage of Sathanur Anicut and when it will be completed and the total number of acres that will be brought under cultivation by this anicut?